



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Protection Cabinet

Matthew G. Bevin, Governor

David A. Dickerson, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Governor Bevin Appoints Steven Edwards Commissioner of Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control** *Iraq War Veteran, Lt. Colonel (Retired) attorney brings talents to agency*

**Frankfort, Ky. (March 7, 2016)** – Governor Matt Bevin and Secretary David A. Dickerson today announced the appointment of Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Steven Edwards as Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC). Edwards, a graduate of the U.S. Army War College, is a decorated veteran who earned the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, along with numerous other military honors.

“My significant supervisory, management and overall leadership experience in the military and civilian sectors will prove valuable in my new role as ABC Commissioner,” stated Edwards. “I want to thank Gov. Bevin and Secretary Dickerson for this opportunity.”

Edwards has 30 years of experience as an attorney; most recently, he was the Division Chief for Claims at Fort Knox where he supervised staff who handled claims filed against the Army in part of Kentucky and all of Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. Previously, he served as the Distilled Spirits Administrator and a board member of the ABC Board.

“Steven Edwards is known and respected within Kentucky’s alcoholic beverage industry,” said David Dickerson, Public Protection Cabinet Secretary. “His leadership abilities, as evidenced by his successful military career and his knowledge of the law, will be assets to the department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.”

Edwards' military career includes a 2003 deployment to Iraq with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division during Phase 1 of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Edwards also served as Chief of the Office of de-Ba'athification for Mosul, Iraq.

Edwards earned his undergraduate degree from Western Kentucky University. His Law Degree is from The University of Louisville School of Law. He resides in Prospect.

His appointment is effective Wednesday, March 9. Edwards replaces Freddie Higdon, who resigned.

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